

Message Text

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65

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-10 JUSE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6918

INFO DEA HQS WASHDC

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: SNAR EG

SUBJECT: PROPOSED VISIT OF EL SHEIKH AND BAGOURI TO U.S.

REF: STATE 210511

1. SUMMARY: IN MEETING WITH S/NM LIAISON OFFICER FOR NEA JOSEPH D. MCLAUGHLIN, POLCOUNS LOWRIE AND NCO MURPHY SEPT 28, DIRECTOR OF EGYPTIAN ANTI-NARCOTICS ADMINISTRATION (ANA) GENERAL SAMI ASSAD FARAG RAISED POSSIBILITY OF INVITING GENERAL MUSTAFA EL-SHEIKH AND GENERAL ABDEL HAFIZ EL-BAGOURI TO US (REFTEL). FARAG'S PRIMARY PURPOSE IN PROPOSING VISIT OF EL SHEIKH AND BAGOURI IS TO DEMONSTRATE THE ADVANTAGES OF A TRULY NATIONAL DRUG ENFORCEMENT AGENCY. EMBASSY CONCURS IN VISIT.
END SUMMARY.

2. FARAG'S ANA IS A BRANCH OF THE DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SECURITY, OF WHICH BAGOURI IS DIRECTOR. THE DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SECURITY IS ONE OF THE DEPARTMENTS OF THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR UNDER THE PURVIEW OF GENERAL EL-SHEIKH, WHO IS FIRST UNDERSECRETARY OF MINISTRY OF INTERIOR. THE ANA, ACCORDING TO FARAG, CONSISTS OF AN INTERNATIONAL, OR HEADQUARTERS BRANCH, IN CAIRO
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HEADED BY FARAG AND CONSISTING OF TWELVE OFFICERS AND SIXTEEN

"DETECTIVES". IN ADDITION, THERE ARE SOME FIFTY OFFICERS AND FOUR HUNDRED "DETECTIVES" BASED IN THE VARIOUS PROVINCES AND CITIES ENGAGED IN DOMESTIC ANTI-NARCOTICS ACTIVITIES WHO ARE TECHNICALLY RESPONSIBLE TO FARAG BUT ADMINISTRATIVELY DEPENDENT UPON POLICE DEPARTMENTS OF GOVERNORATES. GENERAL FARAG HOPES TO CONVINCE HIS SUPERIORS THAT THIS ARRANGEMENT HAMPERS COORDINATED NATIONAL NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT. HE HOPES TO UPGRADE HIS ADMINISTRATION TO A DEPARTMENT, INDEPENDENT OF BAGOURI'S DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SECURITY, AND TO ACQUIRE GREATER CONTROL OF THE PROVINCIAL ANTI-NARCOTICS FORCE. HE BELIEVES THAT EXPOSURE OF EL-SHEIKH AND BAGOURI TO EXAMPLE OF DEA AS INDEPENDENT CENTRALIZED NATIONAL DRUG ENFORCEMENT ORGANIZATION WORKING COOPERATIVELY WITH VARIOUS STATE AND LOCAL POLICE FORCES AND OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES WILL HELP HIM SELL HIS CASE.

3. SECOND PURPOSE OF VISIT, FROM GENERAL FARAG'S VIEWPOINT, IS TO IMPRESS UPON EL-SHEIKH AND BAGOURI THAT COMPREHENSIVE NATIONAL DRUG STRATEGY ENTAILS EFFECTIVE PROGRAMS OF DEMAND REDUCTION, TREATMENT, AND REHABILITATION, IN ADDITION TO ENFORCEMENT. IN FARAG'S ESTIMATION, EXISTING GOE PROGRAMS CRITICALLY DEFICIENT IN FIRST THREE AREAS. GENERAL FARAG CLAIMS THAT HE WAS HIMSELF INSTRUMENTAL IN ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTER-MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE FOR COMBATTING NARCOTICS, WHICH HAS SO FAR MET ONLY ONCE, WHOSE PRUPPOSE IS IF TO COORDINATE ALL GOE ACTIVITIES IN NARCOTICS FIELD AND DEVISE COMPREHENSIVE NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR COMBATTING NARCOTICS ABUSE. GENERAL EL SHEIKH IS ITS CHAIRMAN. FARAG, BAGOURI AND REPRESENTATIVES OF OTHER MINISTRIES INCLUDING INFORMATION, SOCIAL AFFAIRS AND HEALTH, ARE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE. FARAG, IN HOPE THAT US EXAMPLE WILL BE INSTRUCTIVE TO BAGOURI AND EL-SHEIKH, BELIEVES THEIR VISIT SHOULD INCLUDE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF DRUG ABUSE AND OTHER APPROPRIATE INSTITUTIONS OR AGENCIES ENGAGED IN TREATMENT, REHABILITATION, AND DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION.

4. EMBASSY STRONGLY SUPPORTS GENERAL FARAG'S EFFORTS TO INCREASE THE IMPORTANCE AND EFFECTIVENESS OF HIS AGENCY AS WELL AS HIS INITIATIVES TO PROMOTE GOE INTEREST IN COMPREHENSIVE NATIONAL DRUG STRATEGY, AND CONCURS WITH DEA AND S/NM IN WELCOMING VISIT OF EL-SHEIKH AND BAGOURI AS OPPORTUNITY TO GENERATE HIGH-LEVEL GOE UNDERSTANDING OF AND SUPPORT FOR HIS AIMS.

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5. GENERAL FARAG HAS REQUESTED FORMAL LETTERS OF INVITATION BE SENT TO MINISTER OF INTERIOR INVITING EL-SHEIKH AND BAGOURI TO VISIT U.S. IN ORDER TO SAVE TIME EMBASSY SUGGESTS SENDING LETTER FROM AMBASSADOR ON BEHALF OF ACTING ADMINISTRATOR OF DEA ALONG FOLLOWING LINES:

6. "EXCELLENCY,

IN CONNECTION WITH THE GROWING COOPERATION BETWEEN EGYPT AND THE UNITED STATES IN THE FIELD OF NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT, IT GIVES ME GREAT PLEASURE TO EXTEND TO GENERAL MUSTAFA EL-SHEIKH, FIRST UNDERSECRETARY OF THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR FOR PUBLIC SECURITY, AND TO GENERAL ABDEL HAFIZ EL-BAGOURI, DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SECURITY, AND INVITATION FROM THE ACTING ADMINISTRATOR OF THE U.S. DRUG ENFORCEMENT AGENCY, MR. HENRY DOGAN, TO VISIT THE UNITED STATES AS THE GUESTS OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT TO OBSERVE AT FIRST HAND THE OPERATION AND ADMINISTRATION OF HIS AGENCY AND TO DISCUSS WITH SENIOR U.S. ANTI-NARCOTICS OFFICIALS THE PROSPECTS FOR CONTINUED COOPERATION BETWEEN OUR COUNTRIES IN THE SUPPRESSION OF INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING, AS WELL AS OTHER PROBLEMS OF DRUG ABUSE FROM WHICH BOTH OUR COUNTRIES SUFFER.

7. " I UNDERSTAND THAT GENERAL EL-SHEIKH IS CHAIRMAN, AND GENERAL EL-BAGOURI A MEMBER, OF AN INTER-MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE RECENTLY FORMED IN EGYPT TO COORDINATE THE POLICIES OF THE EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT IN THE ANTI-NARCOTICS FIELD. I BELIEVE THEIR VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES WOULD AFFORD THEM THE OPPORTUNITY FOR A MOST USEFUL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH US DRUG OFFICIALS, INCLUDING THOSE HAVING SIMILAR RESPONSIBILITIES WITHIN THE U.S. GOVERNMENT.

8. "THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT WILL PAY FOR THE INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL FOR THE VISIT OF GENERAL EL-SHEIKH AND GENERAL EL-BAGOURI, AND PROVIDE FUNDS FOR PAYMENT OF PER DIEM AND ALL PROGRAM RELATED EXPENSES. THE TIMING OF THE VISIT AND ITS DURATION WILL BE ARRANGED TO SUIT THEIR CONVENIENCE."

9. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE ADVISE WHETHER ABOVE TEXT IS SATISFACTORY AND MAY BE TRANSMITTED ORWHETHER ALTERNATIVE APPROACH DESIRED.

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